



{In Archive} Aug. 24 Trip for King Coal Highway

David Evans to: John Pomponio, Susan Bromm
Cc: Ann Campbell, Brian Frazer

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Randy and Susan,

I spoke briefly yesterday with Ann Campbell about the upcoming trip to WV for meetings on King Coal Highway. She shared some significant concerns about the timing, that I think we should discuss, but also that probably warrant a check-in with senior EPA leadership (there is a 1-2pm meeting with Sussman that might be opportune time).

Basically, what we know from meetings here in town with enviro/community representatives that are working to end mountaintop mining, and from communications with Region 3 staff, is that the level of "protest" against mining is rapidly rising. At same time, the State agencies there (and the Governor) are pressing hard to have pending projects quickly approved. That's a fairly volatile situation that we will be touching down into.....

With State agencies (as well as consultant for the coal companies/highway project) participating in the meeting, Ann flagged the potential that the enviro/community reps pressing to end MtTop Mining may paint our meeting with the State agencies in a damaging light. This would especially likely if (as Ann believes may be likely) the Governor issued a press statement following our meeting.

Let's touch base on this before the 1pm meeting, I'm busy til about 10:30, then free until 11:45 (have lunch plans out of building).

Dave

David Evans, Director
Wetlands Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
(202) 566-0535